

## Gorbachev meets Shamir

MADRID (AP) — Yitzhak Shamir met Mikhail Gorbachev Tuesday in a historic first encounter between Israeli and Soviet heads of government on the eve of the Madrid/Mideast peace conference. "Less than an hour ago, an historic meeting between President Gorbachev and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir ended in this building," the Soviet embassy in Madrid, said Gorbachev spokesman Andrei Grachev. The meeting came two weeks after the Soviet Union ended a 24-year rupture by restoring diplomatic ties with Israel, thus meeting Israel's condition for Soviet participation in the peace talks beginning Wednesday. Mr. Shamir hurried from the embassy to talk with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and made no immediate comment, but Mr. Grachev portrayed the meeting to reporters as warm and forward-looking — a transformation from the days when Israel treated the Soviet Union as an arch-enemy. "Both sides agreed that both of them were damaged by the absence of diplomatic relations for such a long time. And they expressed hopes that they would be able to make up for this damage," Mr. Grachev said. Mr. Shamir "said that he understood Russian better at the end of the conversation than he did at the beginning," the spokesman said.

Volume 16 Number 4841

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جورдан تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحافية الأردنية (الرأي)

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1991, RABIE' AL THANI 22, 1412

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

## Historic Mideast peace conference opens today

From Mahmoud Al Kayed and George Hawatmeh  
in Madrid

A NEW CHAPTER in Middle East history begins here today with the ceremonial opening of Arab-Israeli negotiations under the umbrella of the internationally assembled conference for regional peace.

Participants and observers agree this is only the beginning of a process whose outcome is far from certain but which is a unique opportunity for finding a solution to the Palestinian problem and the wider Arab-Israeli conflict.

Nobody knows for sure what the results will be. Everyone, however, expects it to be a long and complicated process that can either bring about a fair and lasting settlement or end up in pushing the region towards even greater violence, instability and bloodshed.

"Because the stakes are so high, the Arab side at least has come here determined to give

peace its chance," Arab sources say. The outcome depends on whether the Israelis are willing to give up the territorial gains they made in 1967 in return for peaceful coexistence and good neighbourly relations with the Arabs.

The "land-for-peace" formula is straight-forward and simple, but the Israelis have not yet matched Arab acceptance of it.

"Only if and when they do, can the real search for a comprehensive peace begin," according to Arab delegates.

For now, the role of the Madrid conference appears to be aimed at opening direct Arab-Israeli talks without expecting a commitment from Israel to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories. Since such a commitment is unlikely without American pressure on Israel, however, Mihail Gorbachev will have to say to the conferees in the opening ceremony today, according to

negotiations. But the U.S. secretary of state was scheduled to meet with Foreign Minister Farouk Sharaa last night to discuss the issue and to see whether Damascus would change its mind on its refusal to attend the multilateral talks on regional issues, in light of Saudi Arabia and Palestinian agreement to attend them in the third and final leg of peace negotiations.

According to informed sources here, agreement or discord on bilateral and multilateral talks would not surface until Friday, the last day of the conference, when U.S. Secretary of State James Baker will be the last person to address the conference after all heads of delegation have replied to other formal addresses.

Much of what is going to happen at the conference and beyond will be largely determined by what presidents George Bush and Mihail Gorbachev will have to say to the conferees in the opening ceremony today, according to

Arab sources. "It will also depend on Yitzhak Shamir and his speech," the sources say. "While we do not expect (President) Bush to promise direct pressure and imposing a settlement on Israel, we nevertheless hope that he and (President) Gorbachev will pledge to see this process to the end."

In a joint press conference held here after two hours of talks Mr. Bush and Mr. Gorbachev said while they would exert all efforts to make the peace parley a success they would not impose any solution on any party.

Members of the Joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation say that short of imposing a settlement on the Israelis, the U.S. should press for and be able to secure a halt to the building of more or bigger Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

"Such an achievement, more than any other step, can create the right atmosphere for the conference and for the talks that should follow," a senior member of the delegation says. "If the Israelis will not commit them-



Foreign Minister Kamael Abu Jaber, head of the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the Middle East peace conference in Madrid, Tuesday, meets with special U.N. representative to the Middle East Edouard Brummer (Petra photo)

ment activity and agree to confidence-building measures ... the Palestinian delegates maintain.

## King believes settlement will be halted when peace talks begin

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein said in an interview published Tuesday that Israeli settlements in the occupied territories will come to a halt when the Middle East peace conference starts.

"I believe there will be a halt to Israeli settlements with the beginning of the negotiating process," King Hussein told the London-based Al-Quds Al-Arabi.

"Any continuation in settlement construction will be among the reasons which might threaten the (peace) process from the beginning," the King said.

The issue of Israeli settlements is considered "very crucial" to Arabs, he said.

King Hussein expressed hope that the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the

Madrid peace conference will carry out its duty and fulfil the Arab people's aspirations.

The joint delegation is backed in its endeavours by very wide sector of the Jordanian and Palestinian people and by the Arab World at large, the King said.

"After these long years of agony and lost opportunities, we have reached a high degree of awareness that makes it clear to us to shoulder our responsibilities as Palestinians and Jordanians," the King said.

The King said the question of settlements lies at the heart of the negotiations.

"I believe that the continuation of the settlement programme could jeopardise the peace process right from the beginning

since it is unreasonable to have people discussing the future of the occupied territories while settlement programmes persist to swallow up those territories," the King said.

He said that the whole world supports the Arab side in its opposition to the settlements because settlements form a stumbling block in the path of peace.

"If we are searching for peace we should not place obstacles in its path," the King said.

King Hussein referred to the suffering of the Palestinians under occupation, noting that these sufferings and the effects of the intifada were felt in Jordan, which "feels it is closer to the Palestinians than any other state and which has been bearing the negative consequences and

events befalling our kinsmen and our brothers in Palestine."

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## Crown Prince: Regional issues directly linked

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan

Tuesday emphasised the importance of talks on regional issues among the various parties in the Middle East and said there cannot be any circumventing of the direct linkage among the regional issues.

The Crown Prince, in an interview with Mexican Television, also voiced appreciation for the U.S. initiative which led to the Middle East peace conference, which opens in Madrid Wednesday.

"This is not the time to raise slogans (or) to be emotional," the Crown Prince said. "It is time to express our appreciation for the sponsorship of this conference, in particular, the U.S. initiative of March of this year which we feel was a principal initiative in that it emphasised the importance of land for peace," the Crown Prince told interviewer Alka Ben Reza.

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## Two million people may claim damages from Iraq

GENEVA (R) — Up to two million people may claim damages from Iraq over its invasion of Kuwait, the head of the U.N. body that will process the claims said Tuesday.

Belgian Ambassador Philippe Berg, chairman of the governing council of the U.N. Compensation Fund, said it was possible that 1.5 million to two million people who left Kuwait or Iraq during the seven-month occupation of Kuwait might file claims.

If each asked only for the \$2,500 fixed amount being offered to anyone without proof of losses, that would mean small claims totalling \$3.75 billion to \$5 billion.

However, the council is weighing a proposal to raise the fixed amount to \$5,000, and people will be able to file for unlimited amounts — leaving a potential for tens of billions of dollars of individual claims.

The U.N. Security Council, whose 15 members comprise the fund's governing council, has decided to siphon off a portion — up to a maximum of 30 per cent — of Iraqi oil revenues to pay for the losses.

It has authorised temporary sales worth \$1.6 billion but will only allow unlimited sales once it is satisfied Iraq's chemical, biological, nuclear and ballistic missile weapon programmes are destroyed or being destroyed.

Iraq is refusing to export any oil because it is unhappy with U.N. supervision and diversion of its revenues, so the compensation fund is dry.

"If there is no movement in oil, by deduction we have to face a situation where no money is going to come into the fund," Mr. Berg told a news conference.

Nonetheless, the governing council is taking steps to prepare the ground for getting its share of oil revenues when and if exports do begin.

In a week-long meeting that ended on Oct. 18, it adopted a complex mechanism for tanning Iraq's oil revenues once sanctions are lifted.

A confidential study prepared

## U.N. seated on sidelines in Madrid

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — After years of anti-Israel resolutions and rhetoric, the United Nations now finds itself relegated to observer status at the Middle East peace conference, a role that rankles the secretary-general.

Israel, which owes its existence to the 1947 U.N. vote to end the British mandate of Palestine and create two Jewish and Arab states, refused to accept full participation by the world body at the conference in Madrid.

The United Nations will be seated as an observer when the talks open Wednesday, represented by the secretary-general's personal representative to the Middle East, Swiss diplomat Edouard Brunner.

"I believe that this is not enough," Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said of the non-participant status of the world body.

"If that is all they are going to offer the United Nations, it is insufficient and unfair," he told a news conference last month.

"We should not forget that Israel is the creation of the United Nations Organisation and that the framework of any Middle East solution has to be the two Security Council resolutions, 242 (of 1967) and 338 (of 1973)."

Those resolutions call for peace talks between Israel and its Arab neighbours, and lay the groundwork of a land-for-peace deal.

Israel says it has every reason to be wary of the United Nations, after some two decades of anti-Israel resolutions, rhetoric and policies that have been issued by the world body.

The most ranking U.N. policy is the General Assembly's 1975 resolution declaring Zionism to be a form of racism, a measure targeted by the United States and Israel for repeal by the end of this assembly session.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar has denounced that resolution, but his views tend to be lost in the chorus of anti-Israeli statements that have emanated from the United Nations.

## Shamir

(Continued from page 1) them to be "very long and protracted and complicated negotiations that will go up and down, up and down."

Asked by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) if Israel was prepared to cede territory for the sake of peace, he said: "Just let's talk about what can be done in order to achieve peace ... the idea is to discuss everything which separates one side from another."

In Madrid Mr. Shamir said the killing of Israeli soldiers and settlers would not derail the peace talks.

"Some might have expected that in the face of this terror, Israel would not attend the conference, but despite this violence, our press for peace is unrelenting," Mr. Shamir told reporters after arriving in Madrid.

As Mr. Shamir was flying to the talks news broke that guerrillas had killed at least three Israeli soldiers in southern Lebanon.

On Monday night unknown assailants ambushed a bus carrying Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank killing two and wounding five.

"We all who desire true peace should unite in condemning without any reservation these unspeakable acts," Mr. Shamir, 76, said.

"We hope that here in Madrid will begin a process to realise our greatest aspirations. We do not wish to wait any longer for peace and truly plead as if our counterparts have come here in the same spirit our years of waiting will come to an end," said Mr. Shamir.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Algerian wives win right to vote

ALGIERS (R) — Wives won the right to vote in Algeria's first multi-party election when the constitutional council Monday threw out a law that would let husbands vote in their place. The council ruled that an article of the new electoral law allowing one married partner to vote for another did not conform with Algeria's constitution, which bans sexual or religious discrimination.

The Algerian National Assembly, dominated by members of the former ruling National Liberation Front (FLN), had approved the article saying it wanted to avoid "sowing doubt and anarchy into the lives of (married) couples." Although wives could in theory vote for their husbands, critics of the article said tradition in male-dominated Algerian society would ensure that wives would be denied the right to elect the 430 members of the next National Assembly in the Dec. 26 poll. Opponents of the measure included feminist groups, the government and pro-democracy parties. President Chadli Benjedid referred the law to the council, which has seven members — two named by parliament, two by the supreme court and two plus the chairman by the president. The council meets in private to decide whether laws are constitutional. The general election was due last June 27 but postponed after riots by Islamic fundamentalists.

Kuwaiti officials: 18 more wells to go

KUWAIT CITY (AP) — Oil officials said Tuesday that 18 out of 732 wells set ablaze or destroyed in the Gulf war remain to be brought under control. The officials said a ceremony marking the end of the firefighting effort was tentatively set for next Tuesday. "It appears that the plan is holding for Nov. 5," said the official. "But the final determination depends on the success in extinguishing and capping the wells before Tuesday." The official said that adverse weather conditions could cause delays. Of Kuwait's 940 producing wells, 732 were damaged. Original estimates called for capping the wells by March 1992. The faster rate was attributed to an increase in the number of firefighting companies, the availability of needed equipment and support, the completion of the water system and the growing experience of firefighters. Kuwait currently is producing about 290,000 barrels of oil a day from 120 intact wells. Output is expected to rise to about 400,000 barrels a day by the year's end and one million by July 1992.

Thousands of Sudanese fleeing famine, war

KAMPALA (R) — Thousands of Sudanese refugees are crossing into Uganda to escape famine and civil war in the south of their homeland, a United Nations official said Tuesday. "Most of them arrived in bad shape and a large number of them were teenagers,"

U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) official Ahmed Farah said in the Ugandan capital Kampala. Up to 2,000 refugees

have been entering Uganda's northern region each month, bringing the total number of Sudanese refugees in the country to 70,000, a UNHCR report said. "Should the influx exceed this rate then we will have an emergency on our hands," Mr. Farah said. Millions of southern Sudanese have been uprooted from their homes in the eight-year civil war between government forces and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). An estimated 500,000 have died, mainly civilians falling victim to hunger and disease.

Pakistani diplomat summoned by Afghans

ISLAMABAD (R) — The Afghan Foreign Ministry summoned Pakistan's top diplomat in Kabul Monday to protest over what it said was a plot to blow up three of the country's hydroelectric dams.

Kabul Radio, monitored in Islamabad, reported that the Afghan government had exact information about plans by the Pakistani army and intelligence services to destroy the dams.

The protest, charged by the president of the Afghan guerrilla government-in-exile in Pakistan that Pakistani military officials were planning to attack Kajaki Dam in western Afghanistan and Naghlu and Darunta in the east. The president, Sibghatullah Mojaddidi, has been angered by being ousted from a guerrilla delegation he was due to lead to Moscow next week to discuss ways of ending Afghanistan's 13-year-old civil war.

Arafat

(Continued from page 1) He called the appeal "interference in internal Palestinian affairs."

Mr. Arafat has won the support of Palestinian moderates for non-PLO members to attend the conference, which opens Wednesday, as part of a joint delegation with Jordan.

At the same time, the Crown Prince warned, "if this exercise is to be aborted, then clearly we will not be engaged in a process which we all seek, but we will have given the opportunity to those who, expecting and anticipating a failure of this political exercise, to say their are, we told you so.

The positions are too intransigent, nothing will change and it will not be a case of land for peace or peace for peace but peace in place as we know is no

## King believes settlement will be halted

(Continued from page 1) Jerusalem was occupied in the 1967 war and Israel considers the city as part of what it calls "greater Jerusalem." But this accounts for one fifth of the whole occupied West Bank. This question, along with the Israeli settlements, will be discussed at the peace conference," the King said.

He said unless a just and sustainable peace based on justice is achieved, the consequences would be extremely bad for all.

The King noted that many changes had occurred in the Middle East, affecting all parties and said that "Israel had considered itself in the past as a 'vanguard force protecting certain interests vis-a-vis another camp. But this situation has changed as the other camp exists no more and hence Israel's status in the eyes of others has drastically changed."

King Hussein said that such factors have their own effect on the future of the whole region and on the nature of a solution to the conflict.

King Hussein said this city was occupied by Israel in the 1967 war and the Israeli claim that the Jews were forbidden by the Arabs to reach the Wailing Wall. But, he explained, this question was agreed in the armistice agreement between the Arabs and Israel. The King also said the Israelis had been preventing Christians from reaching

Christians from reaching

Nazareth and other holy places under occupation.

The King has repeatedly said that settlement constructions were illegal and warned that they would seriously hinder the Middle East peace drive.

President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker have also criticised the settlements, saying they were an obstacle to peace.

On Tuesday, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir told reporters after his departure for peace talks in Madrid that the Jewish state would not halt building in the occupied territories.

Palestinian activists Hanan Ashrawi and Faisal Husseini, the main negotiators of peace team with Mr. Baker, have been raising for U.S. assurances that Israel would freeze construction in the territories at the start of the talks in Madrid Wednesday.

But officials said Palestinians have not received any American guarantees on the issue. They said Palestinians expect the United States to pressure Israel at the peace conference to halt settlements.

There are fears the conference will be disrupted if the settlements issue is not raised at the beginning.

## Crown Prince stresses linkage of issues

(Continued from page 1)

peace at all." In reply to a question on regional talks, the Crown Prince said:

"Let me first take in terms of direct linkage the question of the multilateral talks, which we feel very strongly are extremely important in that they represent in a sense a Helsinki process for the Middle East. In terms of energy, water, and the consumption of water, there is direct linkage. In terms of debt and military expenditure, there is direct linkage. This is transnational thinking. The positions are too intransigent, nothing will change and it will not be a case of land for peace but peace in place as we know is no

riparian and Syria is an upper riparian, and, if you will, Turkey is an upper riparian to Syria. So there is direct linkage on the most explosive issue potentially, which is drinking water.

"But of course if you are asking me about the direct political talks: Will they lead to cumulative achievements? Clearly, as has been said, some delegations will make progress than others, but what we are looking for is not a peace in aggregate or peace in cumulative achievements. What we, and I say we as Arabs, are looking for is a comprehensive and just peace and think that every indication today is that the cause of the Palestinian people will be honoured and promoted by active Arab inter-action."

## Arafat

(Continued from page 1)

He called the appeal "interference in internal Palestinian affairs."

Mr. Arafat has won the support of Palestinian moderates for non-PLO members to attend the conference, which opens Wednesday, as part of a joint delegation with Jordan.

In doing so, he angered many hardline Palestinian factions by ceding to Israeli demands that no PLO members or Palestinians from East Jerusalem belong to the delegation.

Only Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip are allowed in the delegation, though they are widely seen as being guided by the PLO.

Palestinian sources in Jerusalem said no special permission from the Israeli occupation authorities was needed for the theatre gathering where Mr. Arafat's message was heard.

The new dawn is near," they quoted Mr. Arafat as saying. "This is the first time Palestinians are sitting across the table as equals and will make the world listen to their cause."

About 400 to 500 people took part in the Hamas protest in the city's Shatiya quarter. "No for the conference of treason," said one sign carried by the marchers.

Most of the marchers had their faces covered with masks, and some carried axes and swords.

Youths from Hamas and Fatah also set themselves up for a possible confrontation during the peace conference, when Hamas has called a strike.

The supporters of Hamas went through the city telling shops to close for the next three days, while those from Fatah urged

## Three Israeli soldiers killed

(Continued from page 1)

Hours before the bomb exploded Israeli troops further south battled guerrillas who infiltrated to within a few kilometres of the Israeli border and attacked a patrol near the village of Marwah.

Lebanese security sources initially reported two Israeli soldiers killed and two wounded but said later that five soldiers were wounded, which was confirmed by the Israeli army.

Israel and the Lebanese sources said two guerrillas were killed and one was captured. The

Lebanese security sources said fighting with mortars and anti-tank rockets raged for more than seven hours.

A statement issued in Beirut, the Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine, said its fighters were intercepted by the army as they were about to cross into Israel. It vowed more such raids.

Israeli army officials said the fundamentalist group was headed by Fathi Shekaki, a Palestinian expelled by Israel from the occupied Gaza Strip to Lebanon.

Shortly after the attacks, Israeli gunners retaliated by shelling Hezbollah bases.

## Palestinians march for peace

(Continued from page 1)

merchants to ignore the strike call and remain open.

A PLO hardline group which has disowned the Palestinian decision to attend the peace talks said Tuesday it was responsible for an ambush in the Israeli-occupied West Bank in which two settlers were killed.

The Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) threatened further such attacks in a statement that contradicted an earlier claim of responsibility for the ambush by the Muslim fundamentalist group Hizbullah-Palestine.

The PFLP, as it announces its responsibility for the courageous operation, vows to escalate the uprising and armed struggle until we achieve our people's goals," it said in a statement read over the telephone to Reuters in Cyprus.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

#### AMMAN:

Dr. Mohammad Abbadi ..... 778999

Dr. Adel Dahdah ..... 612177

Dr. Falih Bader ..... 625128

Dr. Hamed ..... 602190

Farm ..... 601912

Fordous ..... 778336

Al Asqa ..... 637036

Nahrash ..... 623672

Al Salam ..... 636730

Yacoub ..... 644945

Shmeissani ..... 637665

#### Civil Defence Department ..... 661111

#### Civil Defence Immediate Response ..... 630441

#### Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199

#### Police ..... 192, 621111, 677777



Representatives from the World Health Organisation (WHO), address meeting reviewing the activities of the local office of WHO's Centre for Environmental Health Activities

## Health official commends CEHA's efforts in promoting public welfare

AMMAN (J.T.) — A group of experts from the World Health Organisation (WHO) gathered here Tuesday for a three-day meeting designed to assess the activities and achievements of WHO's regional Centre for Environmental Health Activities (CEHA), which is based in Amman, and the centre's plan of action for 1992 and 1993.

Acting for Health Minister Mamoud Abbadi, Ministry of Health Secretary General Dr. Adnan Abbas opened the meetings with a speech underlining the importance of CEHA's operations in the Arab region.

Dr. Hassan Baroudi, WHO regional representative, com-

mended the role of the Health Ministry in promoting health levels and in backing projects carried out to promote sanitation and public health in the Kingdom.

Dr. Baroudi called for increased cooperation between CEHA and the Health Ministry to achieve these common goals.

Dr. Abbas paid tribute to WHO and CEHA for helping Jordan promote its expertise in health-related matters and activities designed to protect public health.

WHO officials said that the seminar was designed to enable health workers and experts to exchange views about environmental health within the eastern Mediterranean region and to dis-

cuss problems related to water and sanitation.

CEHA officials said that representatives of Pakistan, Sudan, Saudi Arabia and Jordan are represented at the meeting, which is considered as the third meeting of a regional technical advisory committee to be held in Amman.

They said the committee will evaluate CEHA's achievements and review a proposed plan for 1992 and 1993. The committee will also issue recommendations for CEHA's future direction which can be used as guidelines for long-term goals, technical emphasis and improvement of operational efficiency.

## Questions remain over means to change talks

(Continued from page 1)

focus international attention on Israel's defiance and illegal position and build up pressure on Tel Aviv to abide by international law.

But assuming that international pressure will take time to accumulate and be transformed into action, it remains under how the Arabs will move on to the more complicated issue of Israeli withdrawal without ensuring a freeze on settlements.

The U.S. has made it clear that it will not allow any obstacle on front or issue to hinder the progress of the talks — making it difficult for the Arab leaders to pursue their declared objective of striking a linkage between all phases, and all issues at all fronts of negotiations.

Secondly, the Arab parties going into the negotiations differ on the timing of the third phase of the talks — multilateral discussions on regional security and economic arrangements, which are scheduled to take place two weeks after the opening of the conference.

Damascus has called on the Arabs to boycott the multilateral regional talks if Israel refused to withdraw from the Arab territories occupied in 1967. Jordan had already promised the U.S. to attend prior to the Syrian request.

Egypt which will only attend the conference as an observer but is expected to play a very influential role, is pressing all the Arab parties to attend the regional talks in accordance with the agenda, according to Arab officials.

The PLO had initially firmly backed the Syrian call but recent statements by members of the Palestinian delegation indicated a possible shift of position.

The apparent shift was contained in statements made by Dr. Hassan Ashrawi, spokesperson of the Palestinian delegation to Madrid; she said last Friday that there should not be a move towards the multilateral talks before "complete progress" was made on the Palestinian issue.

Later Sunday, upon her return from a visit to Egypt, Dr. Ashrawi implied that the Palestinians might accept that the agenda proceeds as scheduled provided the Arabs agree among each that no agreement be signed until all issues are settled.

"It is not a matter of timing but of substance," she told reporters in Amman. "There is a difference between attending and signing."

PLO officials said that Cairo

## Fund allocates JD 1.2 million to poor

AMMAN (Petra) — Abdallah Abu Ayyash, director of the Development and Employment Fund (DEF), said the fund had spent JD 1.2 million during the last six months to finance projects in the agricultural, service and handicraft fields.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Dr. Abu Ayyash said the fund usually finances projects set up by individuals and societies. In doing so, the fund follows two methods — a direct one and an indirect one.

Under the direct method, the fund itself undertakes studies aimed at evaluating the feasibility of the projects proposed for implementation. Based on the findings of the evaluative studies, the fund provides the necessary funds.

The second method is different since it is carried out through intermediary institutions, who are well-known for their vast experience and outreach.

Under this method, the fund signs agreements with such institutions.

He pointed out that the fund had concluded agreements with the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC), the Industrial Development Bank and the Vocational Training Corporation.

Therefore what the PLO and Jordan are expected to seek in a commitment by all the Arab parties that no final agreement will be signed before reaching a comprehensive resolution to all the disputes, especially the Palestinian problem.

The Damascus declaration contains such an agreement, but it is not binding.

To ensure that Israel will not try to get each Arab government to sign separately, the Arab foreign ministers, who are leading their countries' delegations have agreed to maintain continuous coordination throughout the talks.

But, according to Arab politicians and analysts, the efficiency of this planned negotiations will hinge on the course of inter-Arab relations. Although the Damascus meeting has succeeded in melting the ice between many of the Arab parties involved, mistrust, partly as a direct result of the Gulf war, prevails, the analysts point out.

PLO officials said that Cairo

## Parliamentarian calls for improvements in schools

AMMAN (J.T.) — Lower House of Parliament member Nayef Al Hadid has urged the Ministry of Education to set up a committee to study the condition of government schools in the southern Amman regions.

In a message to Minister of Education Eid Dahiyat, Mr. Hadid said that the schools in some parts of southern Amman lack sanitary facilities and other essential services as well as school yards for children. He called on the Ministry of Education to allocate funds to help solve the problems in southern Amman.

The House member also commented on a memorandum he had received from the minister of education about the school buildings in a number of towns and villages in areas south of Amman by saying that the buildings planned for the region would not serve the purpose as they lack proper facilities and do not cater to the needs of the students.

AMMAN (Petra) — Spokes-

## Ashrawi: Palestinians confident heading into negotiations



Hanan Ashrawi  
now very positive for the Palestinians because of the global focus on human rights and the determination to apply international legitimacy as embodied in U.N. Security Council resolutions.

The Palestinians have every

right to demand their rights and that international legitimacy be applied to their cause, she said. She added that the American administration is serious in establishing peace in the region and likes to see peace and stability prevail in this region.

Dr. Ashrawi said that Israel is no longer the strategic ally of the United States, adding that it has become a strategic burden on America and is exhausting the American resources. She pointed out that Israel can no longer view itself as an extension to the West and should, therefore, strive to fit in the region through achieving an understanding with the countries of the area.

The Palestinian side is confident that despite entering into negotiations concerning a transitional period or autonomy, this will not be the end result, she said.

The Palestinian side has re-

ceived guarantees that these are only transitional phases conducive to a final solution. "The absence of peace has cost us dearly and we are willing to pay the same price for establishing peace," she said.

On the talks with the Jordanian government, Dr. Ashrawi said, "We have achieved tremendous achievements in our talks with the Jordanian government in terms of forming the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and ensuring political coordination."

She noted that the Palestinian delegation also coordinated with the Egyptian side, which voiced preparedness to support the Palestinian delega-

tion.

She stressed the importance of inter-Arab coordination and noted in particular the importance of the meeting in Damascus last week of the foreign ministers of Arab countries bordering Israel.

## Official: International community failing to answer Jordan's call for aid

By Serene Halass  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan's urgent appeal for international aid to help resettle around 300,000 returnees from Kuwait and other Gulf states has gone unanswered, according to an official at the Interior Ministry.

Last week, Salameh Hammad, the chairman of the government-appointed Returnees Welfare Committee, issued an urgent appeal on behalf of the committee to international and humanitarian organisations as well as the United Nations and countries friendly to Jordan in order to help the Kingdom "confront this serious humanitarian issue of unprecedented proportions."

Between Aug. 6 and Oct. 21, around 35,860 expatriates have returned from Kuwait, said Mr. Hammad, who is also the secretary general of the Ministry of Interior. He added that he did not expect the number of expatriates to increase by the end of this year, but stressed that the problem lies with helping those already

returnees has offered the needly whatever possible services it has received. Yet, Mr. Hammad said that the volume of aid offered through the committee for the benefit of the returnees did not reach the level of real requirements of food and medicine that the majority needed on a daily basis.

According to Mr. Hammad, the committee operates on a two level emergency plan. The first level emergency plan aims at extending immediate help to the expatriates while the second establishes coordination between the various charity organisations in different governorates and the heads of social development programmes in those governorates.

Mr. Hammad also said that the problem of the expatriates is a continuous one. Many local charities are helping us by giving in kind donations, Mr. Hammad said. "But the problem with this is many of these expatriates refuse to ask the charities for this kind of help because their dignity will not allow them to."

The committee established to relieve the plight of the

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### Minister reviews youth activities

AMMAN (Petra) — Youth Minister Saleh Isheidat Tuesday met in Fuheis City with heads of the sports clubs and municipal and rural councils in the governorate in a meeting which was attended by Balqa Governor Fahd Gharibeh. Dr. Isheidat stressed the importance of holding such meetings in supporting youth and sports activities and in defining the needs of the youth. He said the government is keen to serve the youth sector and for this purpose has established a national fund for supporting the youth movement and sports activities.

AMMAN (Petra) — Agriculture Minister Subhi Al Qasem Tuesday discussed with workers and owners of poultry farms the problems they encounter as a result of the high costs of production inputs, fluctuation of production and prices and the absence of a government policy to organise the sector. The farmers called for supporting the poultry sector and stressed the need to set up modern poultry farms and slaughter houses by the private sector. They also called for floating of poultry by the government should take into consideration the high costs of production and the competition by imported frozen chicken.

### Valley to be sprayed with insecticides

AMMAN (Petra) — The Agriculture Department in the southern Jordan Valley region Tuesday organised an insecticide spraying campaign in areas planted with vegetables. Department Director Jamil Jazrafi said the campaign, which will last for two days, will include the areas of Safi, Fifa, Al Mazraa and Al Haditha. The same campaign will be repeated four days later to ensure good results.

### Work of pharmacists' praised

IRBID (Petra) — The Faculty of Pharmacy at the Jordan University of Science and Technology Tuesday organised a seminar on "Pharmacy as a Profession — Reality and Aspirations," in which Lower House of Parliament members Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh and Ziad Abu Mahfouz took part. Mr. Rawabdeh compared between the pharmacists' work in the past and in the present and the roles they play in preparing medicine in laboratories. He also reviewed the role of pharmaceutical industries in Jordan and commended the quality of their products. Mr. Abu Mahfouz called for enhancing the relationship between faculties of pharmacy at Jordanian universities and drugstores and emphasised the role of pharmacists in training students at these faculties.

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## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation

Established 1975

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 678141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Faximile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

## The olive branch

JORDAN HAS cause to be both enthusiastic and apprehensive at the start of the Madrid conference. Embroiled in the middle of the conflict, Jordan has since the 1967 war sought to achieve peace in the region. The Jordanian leadership has lobbied Arabs, Palestinians and super and regional powers to press for the implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. His Majesty King Hussein travelled to the four corners of the globe rallying leaders and nations to press for the convening of an international peace conference. It is thus that Jordan looks at Madrid with hope. But the country is also apprehensive because during the past two decades all its efforts and the efforts of many peace-loving nations and leaders were aborted by the intransigence of the Israeli leaders. This country has suffered over the years as a result of the conflict. Since 1948, Jordan had to shoulder the burden of having to receive most of the Palestinian refugees and to face the Arab Nation's common enemy, Israel. At the same time, the country had to face tremendous pressures — both internal and external, from foe as well as from friend and brother.

As the conference opens in Madrid today, many Jordanians pray for its success and dread its failure. For us in Jordan and for the world at large this will be a historical turning point. If the Madrid conference succeeded, the region will head for tranquillity, prosperity and peace. If, God forbid, it failed, the area would slump into chaos that will ultimately lead to catastrophe and misery.

As King Hussein has repeated many times this could be the last opportunity for peace. Much of the credit for the convening of the conference goes to the Americans: President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker in particular. Both men, especially Secretary Baker, have put much of their time and effort to clear all the hurdles to Madrid. And much still depends on the Americans. Despite President Bush's protestations that it is up to the antagonists to negotiate peace, the gulf between the Arabs on one side and the Israelis on the other is still very wide. The Arabs, after years of concessions, demand the return of the occupied territories and the realisation of Palestinian political rights. The Israelis say "no" to both demands. To move both sides towards a compromise would require even more arduous efforts by the Americans, the Soviets and the Europeans.

It goes without saying that if this process failed, the Middle East would certainly head towards more violence and bloodshed. The region in fact cannot afford a failure. This has been the contention of the Jordanian leadership.

The Arabs, and the Israelis as well, stand to gain a great deal from the achievement of peace. For forty years the two parties fought and both lost in different ways in a bitter dispute that unless resolved peacefully will lead to catastrophe. Both Arabs and Israelis dream of a region that, like Europe, would be an oasis of peace, tranquillity and prosperity. This can only be attained through the demolition of all the barriers of hostility, fear and prejudice. For many years the Palestinians have been holding an olive branch on one hand and a gun on the other. On Monday Jordanian and Palestinian negotiators arrived in Madrid, holding olive branches. They chose to do so as a symbolic gesture that they intend to make peace. It is now up to the Israeli side to show the same inclination. The Middle East is at a crossroads. The Arabs have chosen the path to peace. Will the Israelis do likewise?

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

The Arabs are in Madrid for the sake of achieving the aspirations of the present and future generations to lasting and honourable peace in the Middle East, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday. The paper said that peace is the dream of all people in the region and, should the negotiators succeed in their endeavour, it would be a victory for persons everywhere and a triumph for justice over evil. There can be no room for security or stability in this region the paper said, without a genuine peace based on justice and an end to terrorism and occupation. There must be a just settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict, which has caused so much suffering for so many people in the region, and Arab rights in Palestine have to be re-established and the homeland of the oppressed Palestinians should be restored to its lawful owners if a real peace is to be achieved, stressed the daily. The paper said that if peace is established, there will be gains for all parties and there will be hope for the future generations of this region. But, it added, should failure be the end of the negotiations, no one can predict the magnitude of the tragedies that await the people in the near or distant future. What the Arabs masses hope to see, stressed the paper, is the implementation of international legitimacy because they look with hope towards the so-called new world order that has been advocated by the United States and is being peddled under the umbrella of the United Nations.

It seems that the unprecedented serious American position with regard to the achievement of peace in the Middle East has embarrassed Israel, which finds itself besieged on all fronts, said Sawi Al Shabab daily Tuesday. The Israeli leadership now feels that their expansionist designs are jeopardised by the American administration's stand, which is showing not only seriousness this time, but also some kind of neutrality with regard to the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions, the paper said. Israel's apprehensions, the paper said, stem from the fact that it has never before seen such an attitude on the part of the United States. Therefore, the paper said, one should not be surprised to hear Israeli officials launching an attack on U.S. policies which seem to be restricting Israel's ambitions and containing its lust for expansion at the expense of Arab countries. The paper said there was no need for such apprehension on the part of Israel, which realised all along that the idea of the peace conference had always been to implement U.N. Security Council resolutions.

By Francesca Gee  
Reuter

MADRID — Five centuries ago, a triumphant Roman Catholic Spain ruthlessly expelled Muslims and Jews who lived peacefully side by side under a great Moorish culture.

As host to historic Middle East peace talks opening on Wednesday, Spain now hopes to provide the setting for reconciling the two peoples it once drove out.

The very name of the Spanish capital where Israeli and Arab delegates will try to end a bloody 43-year conflict comes from the Arabic Madjrib, as its Moorish rulers once called it.

Spain has long had privileged links with the Arab World. Its relations with Israel, by

contrast, have improved only recently. A deep-rooted mistrust between General Francisco Franco and the Jewish state prevented the two countries edging closer until after the dictator's death in 1975.

Diplomatic relations were established only five years ago by Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, who, in a delicate balancing act, granted official status to a PLO office soon afterwards.

Spanish involvement in the search for Middle East peace goes back many years, however. As early as 1955, American Jewish leaders asked Gen. Franco if he would act as mediator between Israel and its Arab foes.

During that golden age, Jews in Spain were physicians, scholars and translators. They also played a prominent role in banking and

commerce, and some historians attribute Spain's economic decline from the 16th century to the expulsion of Jews.

The "Catholic monarchs" Ferdinand and Isabella told them to convert to Christianity or leave in 1492, when the last Arabs were driven from their Alhambra fortress in southern Spain.

An estimated two-thirds of Spain's 400,000 Jews fled, mostly to Turkey and North Africa, to form the Sephardic community.

Many still speak Ladino, a medieval Spanish, and some families have kept to this day the keys of their homes in Spain — Sephard in Hebrew — in the hope of coming back.

The expulsion decree was repealed only in 1968, although Jews started trickling back to

Spain during World War II to form a 12,000-strong community.

A 1982 law granted Spanish citizenship to descendants of the Jews expelled in 1492. A few thousands, mostly from North Africa, have taken the opportunity to return to Spain.

Arabs have also come back to the land they once called Al Andalus and which was the main Arab outpost in Europe. Using oil money, they have been buying real estate all over Spain.

A mosque opened 10 years ago by Saudi King Fahd, the first to be built in Spain in five centuries, symbolised a revival of Arab influence on the Costa Del Sol, whose plush Marbella resort has become a favourite playground for wealthy Gulf Arabs.

King Fahd and his brothers

have built marble palaces in Marbella facing Africa, where the Moorish conquerors came from.

The region of Andalusia still has such relics of Islamic civilisation as the Alhambra, a fine example of old Moorish architecture, or the Great Mosque in Cordoba, now a cathedral.

Arab influence can also be found in Flamenco singing and the horseshoe arch and enclosed patios of Andalusian buildings.

But modern Spain has not had the influx of migrant workers from Islamic countries experienced by some of its West European neighbours.

Spain's Muslim population is estimated at 200,000, mostly in its North African enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla, compared with three million in France.

## Israelis and Arabs meet in Madrid with differing agendas

MADRID (R) — Israel and its Arab foes meet across the Middle East peace conference table with widely differing agendas. Following is a list of the objectives of the delegations.

Israel:

The last to agree to attend the peace talks, Israel:

— Wants the peace conference to be a brief ceremonial opening leading to the one-on-one talks it has always wanted with the Arabs.

— Hopes ultimately to sign peace treaties with Syria, Jordan and Lebanon, its immediate neighbours, recognising its right to exist.

— Opposes the creation of a Palestinian state or the return of Palestinian refugees.

— Opposes U.S. and U.N. demands Israel ultimately cede land it occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

— Says it wants to grant Palestinians of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip interim self-rule as envisaged in the 1978 Camp David peace accords Israel signed with Egypt but adds that the status of Arab East Jerusalem, annexed by Israel after the war, is not negotiable.

— Suggests Israel and Arabs will have to negotiate an unspecified permanent solution on the future of the occupied lands.

— Hopes to conclude regional agreements in planned multilateral talks with Arab states on such issues as arms control and water.

Palestinians:

Nearly four years into their uprising of stones and strikes, Palestinians:

agrees to withdraw from Arab lands.

Jordanians:

Attending in a joint delegation with the Palestinians, Jordan:

— Will use the conference to demand an Israeli pullout from the occupied territories including East Jerusalem. The Kingdom has the largest concentration of Palestinians outside of its own borders.

— Wants Israel to halt Jewish settlement in occupied territories while peace talks go on.

— Will accept self-rule for a period of up to five years provided they control land and water resources legislation during this interim period.

— May accept a confederation with Jordan but prefer a decision delayed until after a Palestinian state is established.

— Are likely to raise the issue of the right to return for some 2.5 million Palestinians who have sought refuge in Arab countries since the 1948 Arab-Israeli war.

— Wants Israeli goodwill gestures that would include the release of nearly 10,000 Palestinian prisoners, removing soldiers from the streets, ending arbitrary tax raids and freedom of movement, travel and political activity.

Syrians:

— Wants Israel to withdraw from all Arab territories. Occupied in 1967 including the Golan Heights and East Jerusalem.

— Would not accept the return of the Golan Heights without a solution to the Palestinian problem.

— Wants Israel to withdraw from southern Lebanon but has agreed with Beirut that this should be tackled as a separate issue at the Madrid talks.

— Rule out multilateral talks on secondary issues until Israel yields on the main question of withdrawing from occupied land.

MADRID — Will they shake hands or won't they?

Odds are they won't. But that is only one of many uncertainties in this week's unique attempt to end four decades of Middle East bloodshed at a superpower-sponsored conference in Madrid.

There is no precedent to guide the protagonists to this party, and given the depth of mistrust and loathing in the Arab-Israeli conflict, procedure could be almost as hard to agree on as substance.

The only previous international conference on Arab-Israeli peace was still-born in Geneva in December 1973. Syria did not show up, Egypt and Jordan refused to sit at the same table as Israel. The talks adjourned after a ceremonial opening.

"Mindful of history in his dogged quest to drag Israel and its neighbours to the negotiating table," says U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. The talks adjourned after a ceremonial opening.

— Demands that the Israeli withdrawal is treated separately from all other Arab-Israeli problems to prevent it becoming bogged down until everything is solved.

— Says Lebanese army will take control of the south once Israeli troops leave and will stop guerrilla attacks against Israel.

— Rules out multilateral talks on secondary issues until Israel yields on the main question of withdrawing from occupied land.

## No precedents to guide Mideast peace negotiators

By Paul Taylor  
Reuter

In this age of megaphone diplomacy, the conference will be televised live.

It is a far cry from the seclusion in which Egypt and Israel negotiated their 1979 peace treaty in the log cabins of the U.S. President Jimmy Carter's Camp David retreat.

There will be no anthems, flags or country names, to avoid Israel taking umbrage at the word "Palestine." Even the shape of the table is still unknown.

Photographers allowed to enter the chilly, marble-columned salon in the neo-classical Palacio Real where the talks will be held found it empty on Monday.

U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, the sponsors, and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, the host, will deliver opening addresses on Wednesday.

Then the heads of delegations are due to speak. Mr. Baker said the United States will lay down the order of speakers, time limits and procedure when the meeting starts and he expects all parties to abide by the rules.

But jousting is already under way. Israel demands that the Jordanians and Palestinians, who form a joint delegation, be restricted to a single speech-time.

And it threatens to walk out if the Palestinians declare their alliance.

Mr. Baker, sitting beside Mr. Sharmi, said diplomatically: "The handshake come later in the process."

But will Mr. Sharmi extend his hand for shaking?

His spokesman, Ehud Gol, squeezed a propaganda point from the answer: "We always offer our hand for peace."

## Middle East, cauldron of conflict for four decades

MADRID (R) — The Middle East has been a cauldron of conflict since the birth of Israel in 1948.

It has taken 43 years, nearly two decades of U.S. shuttle diplomacy, five wars involving the Jewish state and a sixth between Iraq and a Western-led alliance to bring Arabs and Israelis to the Madrid peace conference.

Here is a chronology of key events:

1897 — The first world Zionist Congress, convened in Basle by Theodor Herzl, sets the aim of creating a home in Palestine for Jews.

1917 — British Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour, in Balfour Declaration, tells Zionist leader Lord Rothschild that Britain will help establish a Jewish homeland in Palestine. Five years later the League of Nations gives Britain a mandate over Palestine, recognising the aims of the Zionist movement.

1922-1947 — Hundreds of thousands of Jews, many of them refugees from Nazi persecution, settle in Palestine, stoking Arab fears that the intention is to drive Arabs out.

1947 — United Nations recommends the partition of Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab state.

1948 — With the withdrawal of British troops, Jewish settlers proclaim the independent state of Israel. War breaks out with Arab neighbours, Israel annexes large tracts of proposed Arab state. Only the West Bank (under Jordanian administration) and the Gaza Strip (under Egyptian administration) remain in Arab hands.

1956 — Egypt's President Gamal Abdul Nasser nationalises Suez Canal. Israel attacks Sinai Peninsula on Oct. 29, pushes

towards Canal. Anglo-French troops invade Egypt, withdraw under U.N. pressure.

1964 — Arab states create the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as nationalist movement. Yasser Arafat's movement Fatah carries out its first operation against Israel the following year.

June 1967 — Israel attacks Egypt, Syria and Jordan in what it says is a preemptive strike. In a six-day war, Israel captures Sinai Peninsula and Gaza Strip from Egypt, Golan Heights from Syria, and West Bank and East Jerusalem from Jordan.

June 1967 — Israel attacks Syria and Jordan in what it says is a preemptive strike. In a six-day war, Israel captures Sinai Peninsula and Gaza Strip from Egypt, Golan Heights from Syria, and West Bank and East Jerusalem from Jordan.

1970 — Fatah, its popularity boosted by guerrilla attacks on Israeli settlements, offers limited autonomy to Palestinians in occupied territories. Israel continues to refuse to deal with PLO and PLO rejects autonomy.

1979 — Israel and Egypt sign a peace treaty in Washington under which Israel agrees to hand back the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt. It keeps the Gaza Strip. Arab states impose boycott on Egypt.

1980 — European Community, in Venice Declaration, says PLO must be associated with any Middle East peace negotiations.

June 1982 — Israel



## Connors comes back to where comeback began

PARIS (Agencies) — Jimmy Connors, tennis' senior citizen, is reveling in his status as a crowd favorite.

Connors returned Monday to the city where he began his improbable comeback began at the French Open in June. He didn't let his followers down, beating Haiti's Ronald Agenor 5-7, 6-4, 6-2 in the first round of the Paris Open.

Not even the presence of an old crowd favorite, Yannick Noah — playing a doubles match with other Frenchman, Henri Leconte — could upset Connors.

"We were lucky not to lose. With Connors coming after I don't want to imagine how the crowd would be like," Noah said. "It puts more pressure also because you understand what the people shout out to you."

John McEnroe was expected to play Christian Bergstrom and Pete Sampras, seeded sixth, facing Andrei Cherkasov of the Soviet Union in a second-round match.

One thing is for sure: None of them will draw the same fan response as Connors, who at age 39 has the crowd on his side wherever he goes.

"It's been like that for the whole summer since Roland Garros," Connors said. "Until now it's unbelievable. It's the kind of summer you don't buy. So you live it until the end."

Connors loves it, the crowd loves him, and Agenor was the odd man out. For the second time in Paris this year Agenor lost to Connors. The last time, Connors needed five sets and three hours. This time, it took three sets and just over two hours.

The crowd was with Connors all the way.

"I love it when the public gets involved," he said. "The crowd is like the one in New York — here they yell, they shout, they scream."

Connors faces French Open champion Jim Courier in the second round. Courier ended Connors' dreams of a U.S. Open semifinal.

"He played very well against me in the U.S. Open," Connors said. "Every time is another time,



Jimmy Connors

so maybe I can do different here."

Connors knows he can still do well and the French crowd is ready to carry him as far as possible.

"That's why I'm here. I'm working at it," said Connors.

During his match against Agenor, Connors was teasing the crowd or his friends such as Ilie Nastase.

"I like that, I guess that's what I play for and here it's a raw crowd," he said.

Meanwhile, Wimbledon champion Michael Stich pulled out of

the Paris Open Tuesday because of tennis elbow, organizers said.

The fourth seed withdrew a few hours before his scheduled second round match on centre court with Frenchman Arnaud Boetsch.

Like all seeded players, Stich received a first round bye. His place in the draw was taken by South African Wayne Ferreira.

Stich's injury followed Monday's doubles when he and fellow-German Udo Riglewski lost in straight sets to Americans Charles Beckman and David Wheaton in the first round.

## Gascoigne injury again delays court case

NEWCASTLE, England (R) — British soccer star Paul Gascoigne failed to appear in court to face assault charges Monday for a second time because of a knee injury.

The 24-year-old Tottenham and England midfielder, better known as "gazza," originally hurt his knee in this year's FA Cup final. He hurt it again last month apparently in a scuffle at a night-club in his home town, Newcastle.

His injury has put a question mark over his transfer, worth

\$8.8 million, to Lazio of Italy.

But he has until next May, when he faces a medical test, to prove his fitness.

In London, Gascoigne turned up at Tottenham's training ground Monday morning to restart his rehabilitation programme.

Tottenham Manager Peter Shreeves said: "Our club surgeon John Browett looked at the X-rays of Paul's knee at the weekend and said he could come into training. He is here to start his rehabilitation process."

Gascoigne's knee has been wired up but Shreeves said: "As far as the doctors can tell us he is bang on course for the end of May, when he has the fitness test which will decide his move to Lazio."

Sunday's race is the final leg of the Formula One season. Ayrton Senna of Brazil already has clinched the World drivers' Championship.

The Ferrari team is preparing for the race uncertain whether three-time world champion Alain Prost will drive.

Prost has said he is disillusioned with both Ferrari and Formula One.

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANIAH HIRSCH  
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### IT'S A TOPSY-TURVY WORLD

Both vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♦ 9 7 5  
♥ A K  
♦ 8 7 4 2  
♦ K Q J 10

**WEST**  
♦ 8 4 3  
♥ 9 5 3 2  
♦ J 9 6 5 3  
♦ A 9 8 5 3

**SOUTH**  
♦ K Q J 10 2  
♥ Q 10 7  
♦ A K  
♦ 7 6 4

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass  
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠

In every form of bridge, the defenders labor at a distinct disadvantage. Whereas declarer can see the full assets of his side, each defender has only half his side's cards in view. Thus the defenders must find means of describing their respective holdings by the way they play their cards. To appreciate the problem, cover the West and South hands and decide how you would defend with the East cards.

Let's suppose North-South arrive

at a fairly normal contract of four spades. The opening salvo by your partner, West, is the deuce of clubs. You win the ace and return the suit which partner ruffs with the four and then exits with the nine of diamonds to the queen and ace. Declarer wins, crosses to the king of hearts and leads a low trump. You grab the ace as partner follows with the three. Do you try to give partner another ruff, or do you hope partner holds the king of diamonds?

There are two reasons why you should persevere with clubs. First, if partner held the king of diamonds, he would have led a low card in that suit, not the nine. Secondly, by echoing in trumps (ruffing with the four following suit with a lower card), partner is signalling an odd number of cards in trumps, so you know another club will be ruffed.

Note that this method of indicating length in the trump suit is just the opposite of the way you signal length in a plain suit. There you echo with an even number of cards and play up-the-line with an odd number.

There's a sound reason why signaling trump length is inverted. When you hold a doubleton trump, you may not be able to spare the higher card to indicate your trump holding to partner.

I RAN INTO MAVIS AND HER HUSBAND — THEY WONDERED IF YOU'D FANCY DOING A FOULSOKE TONIGHT, PET —

NO, I DON'T THINK SO, FLO — YOU GO

WELL, TAKE RUEY WITH YOU

SOME ENCHANTED EVENING

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## Chinese wins women's world chess title, beats Soviet rival

MANILA (R) — Chinese challenger Xie Jun Tuesday ended six decades of Soviet dominance over women's chess by defeating Soviet world titleholder Maya Chiburdanidze in a 16-game series for the crown in the Philippines.

"I'm very, very happy," a jubilant Xie told reporters after drawing the 15th game in 62 moves of a modern defence while holding the black pieces.

The result after 4 1/2 hours of tense struggle gave her a winning 8.5-6.5 lead over Chiburdanidze, who has held the title for 13 years since winning it in 1978. The first player to score 8.5 points the crown was held by Chiburdanidze.

A quiet Chiburdanidze, who was close to tears, declined to talk with reporters after the loss of her title. She quickly left the playing hall.

"I was confident of getting a good game for the precious draw," said Xie, who learned to play chess in a Peking school at the age of 10. She raised both hands in triumph after the game

as she was surrounded by her ecstatic supporters.

The rise of China's women chess players, who first broke into the candidates matches for the world title in 1983, came from training with their world-rated men's players, chess analysts at the match said.

"They're very sharp, they don't give you any quarter. Xie's game was an off-shoot of training with their male players," said Philippine international master Girmee Fontanilla.

Xie is the first Asian to win a world chess title, breaking a 64-year hold by Soviet women over the crown. She is the third Chinese player to qualify for the candidates matches, which determines the challenger for the crown held by Chiburdanidze.

"This victory is significant because the world championship is not a monopoly of a continent or a federation," said International Chess Federation (FIDE) President Florence Champonnes of the Philippines, referring to the stranglehold of Soviet grandmas

ters over the game.

The 20-year-old sports student from Peking battled back from a one game deficit early in the match to defeat the champion from the Soviet Republic of Georgia.

Xie, who had taken the lead with a win in the third match, suffered back-to-back losses in the fourth and fifth game before managing to equalise with a victory in game eight.

She then broke through with victories in the 11th and 13th games to seize a decisive lead in the contest.

Chiburdanidze, 31, has defended the title she won from fellow Soviet Nona Gaprindashvili four times.

At least nine of the games were played under the classical Ruy Lopez opening as both players decided to stick it out with a king's pawn opening.

Chiburdanidze had to win the last two matches to retain the title with an 8.5 tie. One win counted for a point and a draw for a point.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Not a good day for entertaining, romance or being creative in lines of expression that mean the most to you. Gain the good will of others with honest compliments and consideration.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) A fine time for you to cooperate with your true partners and to make headway in gaining some new allies who fit easily into your picture of things vital to you.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) You have many ideas just what you can do to make your surroundings more attractive so don't juter or lose time but get busy and finish them.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) You have some interesting pleasures you want to enjoy and as soon as you get your assignments done this is an unusually good day for you.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Whatever that moment for you to go straight to an official or executive to get him to give you the backing you need in some civic or vocational project.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You have so many new ideas you don't know which one to put in motion first but so long as you are constructive and forging ahead with character all's well.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) You have deep and prophetic insight what you can do to make your innermost aims come true with the help of a ally who also means a great deal to you.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Whatever you want to do that is able to help you gain your own special hangup is wise to put in motion now so think out your desire clearly.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) There are quite a number of private matters requiring your attention so use that secretive quality with which you are so well endowed to quietly get them settled.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) This is your time to make sure you join with good friends and loyal allies in the games and the sports that bring you a feeling of accomplishment.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) This is that moment for you to go straight to an official or executive to get him to give you the backing you need in some civic or vocational project.

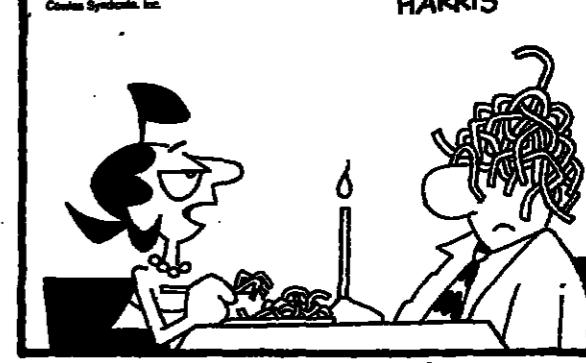
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**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) You have deep and prophetic insight what you can do to make your innermost aims come true with the help of a ally who also means a great deal to you.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

## THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



## JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLED WORD GAME

By Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Uncramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**VENOL**

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**POTIV**

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**LOWELY**

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**GINDAR**

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Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: BOUND MUSIC UNLESS SKEWER

Answer: What many a curious mind doesn't mind — ITS OWN BUSINESS

## THE Daily Crossword

by Don Johnson

ACROSS

1. Even's guys

5. Stable occupant

14. Throw off

15. — in the

16. Mine entrance

17. Singer Terrielle

18. Classified

19. Barnett or Jaffe

20. Promotes in a

21. Ship part

24. Study intensely

25. One-time singer

Cine

26. Lawgiver

27. — in

Financial Markets		Jordanian Rates	
in co-operation with		Cairo Amman Bank	
U.S. Dollar in International Markets			
Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close	
Date: 29/10/1991	Date: 29/10/1991		
Sterling Pound	1.6940	1.6975	
Deutsche Mark	1.7179	1.7149	
Swiss Franc	1.5065	1.5065	
French Franc	5.8805	5.8235	**
Japanese Yen	132.32	131.95	
European Currency Unit	1.1925	1.1938	**
* USD Per STG			
** European Opening at 1000 a.m. GMT			
Eurocurrency Interest Rates			
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.25	5.37	5.37
Sterling Pound	10.37	10.56	10.37
Deutsche Mark	9.12	9.31	9.43
Swiss Franc	8.06	8.31	8.31
French Franc	8.90	9.06	9.12
Japanese Yen	6.37	6.25	6.00
European Currency Unit	9.62	9.87	9.87
Interest bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.			
Precious Metals			
Date: 29/10/1991			
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	Metals
Gold	358.90	6.950	Silver
			4.07
* 24 Karat			
Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin			
Date: 29/10/1991			
Currency	Bid	Offer	
U.S. Dollar	0.6880	0.6900	
Sterling Pound	1.1665	1.1725	
Deutsche Mark	0.4006	0.4026	
Swiss Franc	0.4568	0.4591	
French Franc	0.1175	0.1181	
Japanese Yen	0.5210	0.5236	
Dutch Guilder	0.3555	0.3573	
Swedish Krona	0.1100	0.1106	
Italian Lira	0.0536	0.0539	
Belgian Franc	0.01955	0.01965	
** per 100			
Other Currencies			
Date: 29/10/1991			
Currency	Bid	Offer	
Bahrain Dinar	1.7990	1.8070	
Lebanese Lira	0.0777	0.0780	
Saudi Riyal	0.1631	0.1840	
Kuwait Dinar	—	—	
Qatari Riyal	0.1865	0.1875	
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2100	
Oman Riyal	1.7600	1.7700	
UAE Dirham	0.1866	0.1875	
Greek Drachma	0.3550	0.3560	
Cypriot Pound	1.4450	1.4600	
** per 100			
CAB Indices for Amman Financial Market			
Index	27/10/1991	Close	28/10/1991
All-Share	123.49	124.05	Close
Banking Sector	104.03	104.74	
Insurance Sector	125.16	124.71	
Industry Sector	153.19	153.57	
Services Sector	130.96	131.70	

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.6978/88	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.2404/45	Canadian dollar	
	1.735/45	Deutschmarks	
1.9515/25		Dutch guilders	
1.5008/15		Swiss francs	
35.24/28		Belgian francs	
5.8450/6500		French francs	
1281/1282		Italian lire	
131.90/132.00		Japanese yen	
6.2410/60		Swedish kronas	
6.7150/7200		Norwegian kronas	
6.6400/50		Danish kronas	
One ounce of gold	358.60/359.10	U.S. dollars	

## MEES says Kuwait faces 'severe management crisis'

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Kuwait faces a "severe management crisis" because of its policy reducing the number of foreign workers in the country following the Gulf war, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said Monday.

"The resulting loss to Kuwait should be seen mainly in terms of skills rather than numbers," MEES said. "Many of those who left were among the most competent and experienced."

Associate editor Andrew Cunningham, who prepared the analysis after visiting Kuwait, also noted that the overall cut in population would translate to lower demand in the economy.

"Even taking into account reduced demand for services... the country is facing a severe management crisis," he wrote. He quoted an unidentified "local observer" predicting the Kuwaiti government "may have to soften its line on allowing back foreign workers."

Thousands of Arab and Asian workers fled the oil-rich emirate after Iraq's invasion on Aug. 2, 1990. Those allowed to return have been given short-term work

permits and often are denied residence permits for their families.

Palestinians, seen by the Kuwaitis as Iraqi sympathizers, have been fired from government jobs, and those who fled have not been allowed back.

Many Palestinians did the actual work in keeping ministries running through middle-management positions or ran local businesses. Their numbers have dwindled to about 40,000 from some 400,000 before the war.

The cutback in foreign workers fits neatly with a prewar government goal of reducing Kuwait's dependence on foreigners and increasing the demographic weight of its own 600,000 nationals.

Kuwait's prewar population was about 2.1 million. It's post-war aim is a range of 1.2 million to 1.5 million.

MEES noted it would be difficult for the government to reach its goal of having Kuwaitis make up half of the work force.

Before the war, Kuwaitis made up just 14 per cent of the labour force, and nine in ten were em

ployed by the government. They constituted just 1.2 per cent of the private sector employees. MEES said.

MEES also reported that the longstanding problem of bank debts, accumulated in connection with the 1982 stock market crash, "is expected to reach some sort of conclusion by the end of the year, opening the way for the long-awaited bank mergers."

It said the ministry of finance may set up a special company to purchase the banks' five billion Kuwaiti dinars (\$1.39 billion) in non-performing loans at face value. The move will provide liquidity to the ailing banks and set up a system for debtors to repay the new company over 25 years with no interest.

MEES said that under the plan, debtors would be required to repay their entire loan to the special company. Now, some who cannot pay can get write-offs.

"This difference may be one reason why the new proposal is receiving close scrutiny before being officially approved," MEES said.

## Soviet republics sign debt accord after last-minute hitch

MOSCOW (AP) — The 12 remaining Soviet republics agreed Monday night to share responsibility for repaying the nation's foreign debt, estimated at more than \$65 billion.

The agreement followed two days of talks with deputy finance ministers from the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized nations. The G-7 group has made the pact one of the conditions necessary for further Western aid to the Soviet Union.

Ten minutes before the "memorandum of understanding" was signed, a sentence was inserted that said the former Soviet republics of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia also bore some responsibility for the debt.

No representative of the Baltic states signed the document, but leading Soviet economist Grigory Yavlinsky said afterward in an interview with the "Associated Press": "There is no doubt the Baltics will sign."

The participation of the Baltics appeared to be a condition that was demanded by the Ukraine.

Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin angrily stormed out of the closed meeting before the parties signed the memorandum, but then returned and signed it conditionally, before the language on the Baltics was added.

The rest of the republics signed after a clause on the Baltics was inserted.

"There was an oversight," said David Dodge, assistant deputy

finance minister of Canada. "We went all day and we were scrambling at the end and it was very unfortunate because clearly the prime minister of the Ukraine had made a great contribution during the course of the meeting."

"We would very much have liked to have had him around at the completion," Mr. Dodge said.

The signatories declared themselves jointly liable for the debt and made the Soviet foreign economic bank, or its legal successor, full authority to serve as the debt manager, according to the agreement.

They also promised to "pursue policies designed to achieve rapid economic adjustment that promotes their debt servicing capacities, and to cooperate with their foreign creditors..."

The signatories agreed to "service the debt" keeping in mind also to hold negotiations and conclude an agreement about participation in paying off debt on a solidarity basis with Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia.

Monday night's pivotal session at the Oktyabrskaya Hotel capped talks in the Kremlin between the G-7 officials and Soviet representatives, including Ivan Silayev, head of the interim national government. The talks had been proposed by the industrial nations at this month's annual meeting in Thailand of the International Monetary Fund and the

World Bank.

"There is concern about the creditworthiness of the former USSR in the credit markets, in large part because of the worry about what would happen under whatever new arrangements they might have in this country," Mr. Dodge said of the Moscow negotiations. "I think they've achieved a lot and it's important for the future in terms of their ability to borrow in the market."

At Sunday's meeting, Mr. Fokin proposed establishing a central bank authorized by the republics to make settlements with their common creditors. He said each republic would pay its share of the foreign debt with payments from a special hard currency account in the bank, which would consist of money received from exports and other funds.

He said that positive steps had been taken by some creditor nations but indebtedness of African countries still "hangs like a dark cloud over the continent, obscuring prospects for the renewal of growth."

The secretary-general made his comments at a day-long celebration of African Day devoted to debt relief, initiated by Leon Sullivan, who originated the rules for ending apartheid among employees of American firms in South Africa.

Hundreds of his supporters flooded into the United Nations and scores more listened to the speeches on loudspeakers at a church across the street from the U.N. complex.

In addition to Mr. Sullivan's appearance, the day was marked by speeches from a wide array of international and American political figures, including New York Mayor David Dinkins, Philadelphia Mayor Wilson Goode and General Motors Chairman Robert Stempel.

In his address, Mr. Perez de Cuellar said it was "disheartening to see how, in spite of the widespread recognition of the gravity of the situation... the gap between rhetoric and action remains largely unbridged."

He said there was no single, easy way out "but it is surely

without careful consideration," he said, "this could have unintended consequences when loans are sought in the future."

Although relatively little of Africa's debt is owed to the United States, he said Washington was active in many international lending institutions that urged economic reform and less centralized economies.

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## The U.S. leverage over Israel — money

recent months.

Mr. Modai conceded the continuing deficit — projected at 6.2 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) for next year even without the usual last-minute additions to the budget — means inflation will not fall.

The growth in GNP has been largely a product of the rising population — 350,000 Jewish immigrants in two years — rather than per capita growth.

Exports, which must grow for Israel to maintain its high standard of living, are actually projected to fall 2.5 per cent this year.

Those export figures fuelled rumours of a shekel devaluation and caused demand for foreign currency to surge. To shore up the shekel, the Bank of Israel has pushed the prime rate up from 14 to 24 per cent in the past month.

The economic weakness provided U.S. Secretary of State James Baker with a powerful weapon in his final push for Israel to join the peace talks that start Wednesday. Israel's campaign to separate aid and peace efforts convinced no one.

"It is unfortunate that this peace process begins at a moment still laden with tensions in the U.S.-Israel relationship," said a spokesman for the peace talks.

Unemployment has moved

above 10 per cent and even with extra spending intended to create jobs, the finance ministry predicted unemployment of 14 per cent in two years.

Inflation, hovering close to 20 per cent a year since the U.S. rescue of the Israeli economy in the mid-1980s, has been rising in

## U.N. chief urges enforcement of Yugoslav arms embargo

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The U.N. Secretary-General urged the Security Council Monday to follow up its arms embargo against Yugoslavia and offered U.N. aid for displaced persons, expected to reach 400,000 soon.

In an analysis of the Yugoslav economy, Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar also said the entire financial life of the country "is in risk of disintegration."

"The killing must stop," the U.N. chief said in his first report on the Yugoslav crisis following a trip to the country by his special envoy, former U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

Mr. Vance, he said, reported that the embargo on weapons and military equipment imposed by the Security Council on Sept. 25 was being violated.

"Given the gravity of this apparent violation of the decision of the council, its members will no doubt wish to respond appropriately," he said.

France has been considering

asking the 15-member council to impose an oil embargo against the warring parties in Yugoslavia but no action has been taken yet.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar said he asked the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogata, to examine "on an urgent basis how her office may act" in Yugoslavia.

He estimated about 300,000 people had been displaced within Yugoslavia and another 100,000 were expected to follow suit by the end of the year.

UNHCR is already active in aiding 35,000 Yugoslav refugees in Hungary. Italy has granted temporary asylum to 5,000 Yugoslavs and Austria has reported 6,000 to 8,000 refugees.

Britain's Lord Carrington, the European Community's mediator on Yugoslavia, Monday told senior diplomats he was pessimistic about prospects for a truce in the country's civil war.

Carrington, who had conferred with Mr. Perez de Cuellar, later briefed the five permanent mem-

bers of the Security Council, diplomats said.

"He was pretty discouraging, quite pessimistic," said one envoy at the talks, which reviewed an EC communique threatening Serbia with economic and diplomatic sanctions if it did not agree to EC peace proposals by Tuesday.

Only Serbia has so far rejected an EC plan for the orderly breakup of the Yugoslav Federation.

Lord Carrington was said to have told Britain, France, the United States, the Soviet Union and China that support from the Security Council would be useful. He also said he planned to talk to the Yugoslav parties again on Nov. 7.

Meanwhile the Yugoslav army Tuesday blasted the Croatian town of Vinkovci with artillery and sporadic fighting was reported elsewhere in the breakaway republic.

Croatian radio said a heavy artillery barrage at dawn pounded Vinkovci, where the Serb-led army is trying to drive out Croatian militia forces.

In the port city of Dubrovnik, under siege by the army for 29 days, evacuations of women and children continued overnight. A ship bringing relief supplies was being inspected by the army before being let through a naval blockade.

Some 50,000 men, women and children are trapped in the medieval Croatian port, deemed a world heritage site by the United Nations, with the army camped a kilometre from the walls.

Despite a 10-day ceasefire, fighting has raged around Vinkovci and the nearby Danube town of Vukovar for the past week.

Fighting was also reported around Vukovar Tuesday, where some 15,000 Croats have been holding out against an army siege for two months.

The Vukovar hospital is said to be overflowing with wounded but international relief convoys have been unable to reach the town because of the fighting.

## N. Korea continues to refuse nuclear inspections

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) —

Communist North Korea has not only refused again to open its secretive nuclear facilities to international inspection, but it has set more conditions for doing so.

Talks will be held in Washington this week to discuss what can be done to pressure North Korea to change its mind.

This recent recalcitrance by the North Koreans privately disturbs Western officials, who have expressed concern that the North may not only be nearing the potential to produce nuclear arms but seems determined to use the issue as a political weapon.

The nuclear debate is one of the most sensitive issues in North Asia. Inability to resolve it threatens to undermine efforts for lasting peace and stability in the region.

The Foreign Ministry said last weekend that high-level talks in Washington on Oct. 30 would focus on U.S. troop reductions and on U.S. President George Bush's plan to withdraw all sea and land-based nuclear weapons from South Korea.

Military sources said Monday that South Korea will start massive military exercises with the United States this week, and a Seoul newspaper said U.S. troops might use such exercises to remove nuclear warheads.

The announced withdrawal of U.S. weapons was initially seen as a positive step in encouraging North Korea to allow inspections. The North has consistently demanded the withdrawal of U.S. nuclear weapons as a condition for Security Alistair Asprey said.

"This is a comprehensive agreement covering the return of all non-refugees," Mr. Asprey told a news conference. "It also covers all new arrivals."

He said Britain's ambassador to Hanoi, Peter Williams, signed the agreement Tuesday on behalf of the British and Hong Kong governments.

Mr. Asprey said it would apply initially to boat people arriving in the British colony and details on how to start deporting Vietnamese already here had yet to be hammered out.

"This understanding brings into effect an orderly return programme which will apply initially to all new arrivals found to be illegal immigrants and then subsequently to all other Vietnamese illegal immigrants already in detention centres."

Earlier this month Hanoi and London agreed to start limited deportations, but the deal covered only about 200 boat people out of over 63,000 in Hong Kong camps, and fell far short of Hong Kong officials' hopes of starting forces repatriation for all non-refugees.

The earliest the troops could be withdrawn is 1994 or 1995, said Mr. Asprey, whose comments were translated by a Norwegian interpreter.

Mr. Asprey said the Baltic

## U.N. details 'quick fix' measures for Cambodia

PHNOM PENH (R) — A United Nations agency plans to start patching up Cambodia's shattered rail and road network to help repatriate the 350,000 refugees in camps in Thailand, a senior Phnom Penh-based official said.

After the signing of a peace treaty last Wednesday between the Phnom Penh government and its guerrilla rivals, the United Nations is embarking on one of its biggest ever missions to get the country back on its feet and guide it through to elections.

Rajeev Pillay, deputy head of the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP), said Monday a short-term upgrade of the railway would cost about \$8 million using second-hand materials bought in Thailand.

The railway would serve as a means of bringing in food and assisting in the repatriation, he said.

A U.N. survey mission will arrive in Phnom Penh next month to report on the proposed upgrade.

Unofficial estimates to repair Cambodia's infrastructure, barely running after 13 years of civil war, have been put at \$2 billion.

Mr. Pillay said \$100 million had been set aside for urgently needed rehabilitation and technical assistance programmes.

The UNDP's mandate prevented it from getting involved in huge and costly capital work projects but money could be spent on "stop-gap" measures such as limited repairs to road and rail systems.

"What we can do is put in 'seed money' for certain rehabilitation works that would serve as a means of attracting future funding," he said.

Cambodia's rail network consists of two single-line tracks linking the capital with Poipet on

the Thai-Cambodian border and another between Phnom Penh and the southwest port of Kompong Som. The track between Sisophon and Poipet has been mostly destroyed.

The country's ancient passenger and goods trains include several steam locomotives built in the 1920s.

A train runs at an average speed of 25 kph (15 mph) because of severely degraded track and bridges, a frequent target of guerrilla attacks.

In Bangkok, the U.N. announced that a mission of the organisation's agencies would leave for Cambodia Thursday for a two-week trip to assess the country's needs.

It will look at the immediate relief problems in food, water, sanitation, health and infrastructure.

It is the first such visit since the peace accord was signed and involves the world food programme, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, the U.N. Children's Fund and other agencies.

After it reports back the U.N. will appeal to the world community for funds.

No one knows how much the new U.N. Cambodia operation will cost — but everybody is sure it will be the most expensive in U.N. history.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Solomon has presented Congress for a bill of more than a billion dollars, of which the United States would pay about 30 per cent. It is hoped Japan will pay at least 25 per cent of the cost and Australia will contribute about 1,000 troops.

Diplomats believe Mr. Solomon, in his recent testimony to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, gave the highest possible estimate, meaning that earlier ball park figures of \$2 to \$5 billion have been discounted.

## Column 10

Mrs. Marca offers shoes collection for \$10,000 a pair

MANILA (R) — Imelda Marcos is offering to auction off her shoe collection for \$10,000 a pair to raise money for victims of the Mount Pinatubo volcanic eruption in the Philippines. The exiled former Philippine first lady said in a radio interview Tuesday the government of President Corazon Aquino had promised to return her collection of 1,200 designer shoes that she left behind when she was ousted in 1986. "I heard the shoes ... will be returned to me. Perhaps it would be good if we auction them so we can have some funds, some money and help the Pinatubo victims," she said.

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## China cracks down on prostitution

PEKING (AP) — Authorities are cracking down on prostitution in southern China before the Women's World Soccer Championships are held there next month.

The tournament will be held on Nov. 16-30 in Canton and four nearby cities.

China is intent on making a good impression as host of the international competition in an effort to bolster its bid for the summer Olympics in 2000.

The official China Daily newspaper said 1,774 prostitutes have been arrested in the crackdown in the southern province of Guangdong. It said police have closed 472 hotels, recreation centres, barber shops, beauty shops and bars that were centres for prostitution.

The Chinese government has cracked down on prostitution in the southern province of Guangdong.

China's rail network consists of two single-line tracks linking the capital with Poipet on

## Soviet forces to remain until Baltics can afford to move them

OSLO, Norway (AP) — Red Army soldiers must remain in the independent Baltic republics until they have a place to resettle, and Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia can help build cities for the troops in East Germany.

"We have already suggested payment in currency," he said. "If a division pulls out then they (the republics) pay for a city complete with everything."

The Baltic republics need to rebuild their economies after 50 years of Communist rule. They have little hard currency and may face fuel shortages and severe economic problems, and may not be able to afford such expenses.

"Then we will have to wait until they become wealthy," said Mr. Grachev.

The Soviet Union has grave economic woes of its own, and Mr. Grachev said moving the troops without having anywhere to put them "would be barbaric."

Mr. Grachev was in Norway to tour military installations, and meet with top military officials, including the Supreme Commander of Norwegian Forces, Adm. Tonoff Rein.

## Russia may build own army if other republics do

MOSCOW (R) — Boris Yeltsin said Monday his Russian Federation had no immediate plans to form its own army but would be forced to do so if other republics pressed ahead with theirs.

"You know that certain republics have announced the formation of national armies. We are in no hurry to do so," the Russian president said in a speech to the Congress of People's Deputies, the republic's highest legislature.

"It makes more sense politically to have joint armed forces in a community of sovereign states, with a unified command," Mr. Yeltsin added.

"But if, against our wishes, the process of creating national armies in the republics goes ahead, we'll have no alternative but to form our own Russian army. But that will not be our choice."

He said the plan still had to be approved by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and the State Council, a temporary government structure set up after last August's abortive conservative coup.

Mr. Grachev was speaking shortly after Mr. Yeltsin proposed drastic austerity measures for the Russian Republic — including a 90 per cent cut in funding for the Soviet Foreign Ministry — to stop the republic's economic decline.

"We are proposing to reorganise the Soviet Foreign Ministry. It should be the coordinator of the international affairs of the republics, and its size should be about 10 times smaller than it is now," Mr. Yeltsin said.

Mr. Yeltsin made his threat to strip power from the Foreign Ministry as Mr. Gorbachev — who still has great international prestige — set off to co-chair a Middle East peace conference in Madrid.

Azerbaijan and the Ukraine voted this month to set up their

own armies, and many other republics are creating separate national guards.

"I think it's inevitable at a certain stage that there will be some armed forces on the territory of the former USSR," Mr. Churkin said.

Aluding to fear that Russia, the Ukraine, Kazakhstan or Belarus might want to take control of Soviet nuclear weapons in their territory, Mr. Churkin said:

"I don't think that in a situation like this (Mr. Yeltsin's proposal) you can hold centralised control over nuclear forces in this country. That's my personal opinion."

Soviet leaders have frequently tried to reassure the West that Moscow will keep control over the country's nuclear arms.

In London, President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan said Monday he would not seek independent control over the country's nuclear test range.

In Moscow, Mr. Yeltsin Monday ordered a one-year moratorium on nuclear tests on Russian territory, Interfax News Agency said.

Mr. Nazarbayev will discuss the future of the Soviet Union with political leaders led by Prime Minister John Major, chairman of the Group of Seven industrial nations. He will also meet bankers and petroleum industry chiefs.

Mr. Nazarbayev said his republic needs qualified consultants to exploit its resources, which include oil and gas reserves.

Mr. Nazarbayev later met Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd for talks on the Soviet economy and relations between the republics.

Mr. Hurd "expressed our concerns about the future control and safety of nuclear weapons in the Soviet Union," a Foreign Office spokesman said.

## Mother, son reunited after 55 years

ROME (AP) — After 55 years, an elderly woman was reunited with the son she believed had died as an infant, Italian newspapers reported Sunday. In 1936, 19-year-old Anna Maria Mancini delivered a son out of wedlock.

Fearing a scandal, her family conspired with the midwife, who told the girl her child was born "dead and horribly deformed," he said.

The Mancini family put the child away in an orphanage, the papers said. The son was adopted at the age of six and given the name Nello Di Simone. He was unaware of his mother's existence until a colleague at the Fiat car factory in the town of Salsomiglia in the central Abruzzi region told him of his grandparent's conspiracy, the newspapers said. After much research, Di Simone found distant relatives in Canada who provided his long-lost mother's address. He finally met her Saturday, the paper reported.

"No one can understand what a mother experiences finding a child she thought dead for 55 years," Mrs. Mancini tearfully told reporters. Mrs. Mancini, married with three daughters, joined her son at his home in Pratola Peligna, only a few kilometres from her own house.

Mother and son say nobody will keep them apart again. Meanwhile, Italian editors are already speculating the tale will become a bestseller for the sentimental literature market.

## India's ex-premier arrested during protest



V.P. Singh

## Britain, Vietnam sign deal to deport boat people

HONG KONG (R) — Britain and Vietnam have signed a deal in Hanoi allowing the deportation from Hong Kong camps of all boat people refugees, Hong Kong Secretary for Security Alistair Asprey said.

"This is a positive step in encouraging North Korea to allow inspections," he said.</